The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; served by carriers at 15 cents per week; mailed to subscribers (out), $10 00 per annum prepaid.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1875. NO. 119.

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FIRST EDITION.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 25, 1875.

Secretary GORHAM called the Senate to order and read a letter from Vice-President Wilson, dated Saturday last, announcing that a pressing engagement would prevent his attendance at the opening of the Senate to-day.

Mr. BOUTWELL submitted a resolution declaring Henry B. Anthony, of Rhode Island, President *pro tempore* of the Senate. Agreed to.

The usual resolution directing the Secretary to inform the President and House of Representatives of the election of Mr. Anthony was agreed to.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, presented the credentials of Hannibal Hamlin as Senator for the term of six years from March 4th, 1875. Placed on file.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a letter from the Secretary of War in answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 11th inst., transmitting copies of correspondence in relation to certain disorders in the State of Louisana. Ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. ROBERTSON presented a joint resolution of the South Carolina Legislature, asking an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars to deepen the harbor of Charleston. Referred.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, introduced a bill to establish an education fund and apply a portion of the proceeds of public lands to public education and to provide for the more complete endowment and support of national colleges for the advancement of scientific and and industrial education. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

A large number of petitions were presented for the repeal of the act of 1872, relieving certain foreign products of ten per cent. duty, and against the restoration of the duty on tea and coffee. Referred.

After the morning business the Committee on Naval Affairs had the floor for the disposition of bills on the calendar reported by that committee.

The bill for the relief of the survivors of the Polaris, was passed.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the Louisiana discussion was resumed, and Mr. JOHNSTON addressed the Senate.

Referring to the President's message in answer to the resolution of the Senate, he said the President had not informed the Senate, as requested, why officers of the army of the United States had been permitted to interfere in the organization of the Louisiana Legislature. The President had really told the army, "Go to Louisiana; do what Kellogg tells you;" and the orders of Kellogg were the orders of the President. The Republican Legislature in Louisiana had seated men in place of three or four of those ejected by General De Trobriand. The men seated in those places had no right in the world to the seats. Why did not the President have them put out? They were there in defiance of all law. He next spoke of the troops recently stationed in the South, and said their presence there was the cause of the greatest discord in the Southern section. The President, as commander-in-chief of the army, was bound to obey the Constitution and laws, and it was his duty to instruct his generals to obey the law. If they did not know, he should teach them. The President had declared, in his message, that if an error had been committed by the army it had been on the side of good order and the maintenance of law. Was it to maintain law that the President of the United States undertook to decide who were members of the Louisiana Legislature? Was it to maintain law that directions were issued that the army should obey the orders of Kellogg? If so, where was the law? He denied that any Ku-Klux organization existed in the South now, and in conclusion said all the Southern people demanded was the right to govern themselves.

Mr. PEASE sent to the Clerk's desk and had read the resolutions of the Mississippi Legislature indorsing the action of General Sheridan in Louisiana, and said the President had been declared an usurper and military dictator. He had been arraigned on mere newspaper reports. When the facts came out, it was shown that instead of any attempt to overthrow the government of Louisiana, the President had only performed that which his oath of office compelled him to do. The President was bound to recognize Kellogg as Governor of the State. Congress has taken no action to establish a government, and the President had no other course than the recognition of Kellogg left him. He said the act of Wiltz was part of a conspiracy on the part of the Democrats to overthrow the government of Louisiana. Not one word of censure had come from the Democratic side of this Chamber towards Wiltz, who was a revolutionist. He was surprised that any American Senator should stand in his place and apologize for the outrages committed in Louisiana in the last few years, when it had been shown that 3,500 persons had been murdered there for political reasons since 1866. Even from the report of Mr. Schurz upon the condition of the South, made in 1855, and said he begged to assure that Senator (Schurz) that the condition of affairs he found then had been growing worse every day since. This new movement at the South meant revolution and the destruction of the republic. Under the political teachings of the Senator from Missouri (Schurz), his State had been turned over to the secession Democracy, and he would have the Republican party now turn over the South to the White League banditti. The old Ku-Klux organization and the White League of to-day were the same, yet these murderers and assassins had their apologists on this floor.

Mr. THURMAN said the Senator had asserted that assassins and murderers had apologists on this floor. He demanded that the Senator name the apologist.

Mr. PEASE said perhaps he should qualify that statement. He had not heard the Senator in his place apologize for murder and assassination, but when Senators on the Republican side spoke of these crimes, Senators on the other side had treated them lightly and said, "It is your Radical outrage mill, gotten up for political purposes." When Senators from the South said the Associated Press in that section was invariably in the hands of White Leaguers, &c., Senators on the other side paid no attention to the statement.

Mr. THURMAN said he utterly denied that there had been any member on the Democratic side who had said one word by way of apology for assassination, and there was no foundation for making such a charge. Democratic Senators had denounced exaggeration and falsehood. When it came to be a question of veracity between the Senator from Mississippi and the gentlemen of the Associated Press, the Senator (Pease) must allow Democratic Senators to reserve their judgment.

Before concluding his speech, Mr. PEASE yielded to Mr. SHERMAN, who offered a resolution authorizing the President to appoint a Commissioner to attend the International Penitentiary Congress, proposed to be held at Rome next year. Referred.

Mr. SHERMAN presented the resolutions of the Cincinnati Light Guard, in favor of the passage of a law providing that the arms issued to Ohio under the act of 1808, shall not be charged to the State. Referred.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

On motion of Mr. DAWES, is was ordered that Richard B. Irwin be discharged from arrest, he having answered all questions of the committee.

Mr. HAWLEY, of Illinois, moved to suspend the rules and make the bill for a canal connecting the waters of Lake Michigan with the Illinois, Mississippi and Rock rivers the special order for the second of February. Agreed to—yeas 179, nays 55.

Mr. CESSNA offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That the rules be so far suspended during the remainder of the present session as to prevent the Speaker from entertaining any dilatory motion pending the consideration of any public bill on joint resolution, or of any motion to bring, or the result of which may bring, before the House for consideration such bill or joint resolution; and this order shall apply to amendments offered in the House or adopted in the Senate and awaiting concurrence in the House, or to such public bill or joint resolution and to any report of a committee thereon.

The reading of the resolution was followed by indignant protests from the Democratic side of the House, Mr. ELDRIDGE suggesting that perhaps it would be better to abolish all rules; Mr. HOLMAN, that it would be in violation of the Constitution; Mr. RANDALL, that it would open the Treasury to all schemers; Mr. COX, that it would be better for the House to suspend all rules and go home; and Mr. WOOD, that it would be setting a very bad precedent for the next House.

On the other side, it was declared by Mr. BUTLER that the object was only to prevent a waste of public time; and it was denied by Mr. CESSNA that it would throw open the Treasury doors to anybody.

Some opposition came from the Republican side of the Chamber, from Messrs. MERRIAM, of New York, KASSON, of Iowa, and SMITH, of Ohio.

The resolution was rejected—yeas 150, nays 98—not the necessary two-thirds in the affirmative. Among the Republicans who voted "no," were Messrs. Blaine, Burchard, Burleigh, Foster, Hale, of Maine, Hale, of New York, Kasson, Merriam, Phelps, Pierce, E. H. Roberts, Sener, Smith, of Ohio, Willard, of Vermont, and Willard, of Michigan.

Mr. SMITH, of Pennsylvania, moved to suspend the rules so as to make in order to the Postoffice Appropriation bill an amendment to repeal the additional China subsidy to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. Agreed to without the yeas and nays.

Mr. NEGLEY, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill amendatory of the Act of the 3d of March, 1873, authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi river at St. Louis.

Mr. WELLS moved to lay the bill on the table. Negatived. The bill requires the bridge to be built of three straight continuous spans, each not less than 400 feet in the clear.

Mr. STANARD moved an amendment requiring it to be built of two continuous spans of not less than 450 feet in the clear.

Mr. Stannard's amendment was agreed to, and the bill, as amended, passed—yeas 27, nays 4.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, moved to suspend the rules and take from the Speaker's table the Senate Civil Rights bill for consideration at the present time, and continuously till final disposition be had thereof, and that no dilatory motion be allowed until such bill and amendments have been finally disposed of.

Dilatory motions were immediately resorted to by the Democrats to prevent a vote on Mr. Butler's resolution. Finally a direct vote was taken on the motion, and resulted—yeas 147, nays 93—not two-thirds in the affirmative; so the motion was defeated. The Republicans voting "no" were Messrs. Butler, of Tennessee, Harrison, Hyde, Lofland, Lowndes, Maynard, Sener, Sheats, Sloan, Smith, of Virginia, Stanard, Strait and Thornburg.

Mr. DURHAM presented a memorial and petition signed by six thousand residents of Kentucky, asking Congress to submit for ratification an amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of spirituous liquors, such amendment to take effect January 1, 1876. Referred.

Adjourned.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 25, 1875.

THE SCANDAL TRIAL.

The usual crowd gathered in the Brooklyn City Court room to-day. Assistant Pastor Halliday was the first of the Plymouth church delegation to enter. Judge Neilson arrived soon afterwards, followed shortly by most of the counsel. Theodore Tilton and Francis D. Moulton came in together, immediately followed by ex-Judges Fullerton and Morris. Mr. Beecher and friends and Mrs. Tilton and friends had not arrived when the court was opened, and Mouiton took the stand. Mr. Evarts apologized for the absence of ex-Judge Porter, who was unable to come out, owing to the severe weather.

Mr. Shearman stated that they had got the original charges, as printed in *Woodhull and Claflin's Weekly*, November 2, 1872, which he proposed to read. Mr. Shearman read a few clauses, when ex-Judge Fullerton objected to that portion of the article inculpating Tilton, Beecher and Moulton. This article, counsel argued, was only a promulgation of the doctrine of Mrs. Woodhull, and he did not see why it should be admitted in evidence. Mr. Beach, on the same side, said if this article was read it would raise side issues, and the only object, he thought, was to introduce accusations against the plaintiff and the witness on the stand. The Court decided that the article should be read, subject to his decision, paragraph by paragraph. That portion relating to Mrs. Woodhull's views of the marriage relation was ruled out, and the Court characterized them "atrocious sentiments." An exception was taken to the ruling by the defense. The jurist seem very weary and allowed to remain in. The statement in regard to Theodore Tilton, that he was no vestal virgin, was ruled out; also the statement of endorsement by Mr. Beecher to preside at the Steinway Hall meeting. Mr. Shearman then said this was all he had to read.

During the morning session, to the hour of recess, the Earl of Rosebury occupied a seat on the bench.

After recess, Mr. Moulton was handed a letter by General Tracy. He said he saw this letter in the latter part of December, 1872, after the publication of the letter to "A Complaining Friend." I think it was left with me by Tilton.

The letter was read by Mr. Shearman. It was written to Moulton by Mrs. Tilton, declaring that she was innocent of the impure crime imputed to her, and acknowledging her faith in her husband's not making these charges against her. The letter was offered in evidence.

Witness continued: I have no portrait of Beecher hanging now in my house. I took it down about one year ago. I cannot fix the date more accurately. I took it down to make way for another portrait. I should think I took it down more than three months ago. I will not say it was taken down after my appearance before the Investigating Committee, in August. The picture hung there from the latter part of 1871 up to that time. I may have published a card after August 31st stating that I was a member of the congregation of Plymouth church, as I was a member of no other congregation. I made my first statement July 25th. The second was, I think, August 6th.

General Tracy asked the counsel for the prosecution for the original copy of Moulton's first statement, which caused some delay, during which the witness continued: I dictated it to Tilton and copied it from what Tilton had written. The long report, which was drawn up by the Investigating Committee, was then read by Mr. Shearman, which witness said was drawn up at his house when Tilton, General Tracy and himself were present.

Witness continued: I went down to the door with Tilton, and told him to get reconciled with his wife. This report was submitted to me next morning or the morning after

The Commercial.

TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 1875.

UNITED STATES Senatorial elections will take place in New Jersey, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, to-day.

THE total importations at the port of New York, last week, reached a valuation of $6,079,348, against $4,795,247 for the corresponding week of last year.

IN DEBATING the Southern question our local Democratic contemporary so trembles with the excess of its fine rage as sometimes to be really in danger of splitting its Confederate uniform.

THE Chicago *Tribune* of Sunday had an impassioned three-column article on the "French nuisance" of that city. Strange to say, it does not contain a solitary allusion to the "reform" municipal government.

GENERAL BATE, who appears to be at present the leading candidate for United States Senator from Tennessee, is, like Senator-elect COCKRELL, of Missouri, an extended General, a mediocre criminal lawyer, a good deal disposed to rhetorical display, and wholly lacking in the proper caliber for a Senator of the United States. But his Democracy is unimpeachable; he served throughout the war in the rebel army.

AN IMPORTANT decision has just been rendered by the Superior Court of Maryland, in an action of that State against the Northern Central Railroad, to recover a tax of one-half of one per cent. on its gross receipts, as a State tax. The court declared the tax to be arbitrary and greatly exceeding the assessments on other property in the State, and decided in favor of the road. The case will, however, be appealed.

THE free trade papers complain bitterly that the "Little tariff bill" interprets the doubtful points of the revised statutes "in favor of protection." That is its most valuable feature. Thousands of workmen are idle to-day because our tariff is not sufficiently protective, and because many of our people are thus tempted to purchase abroad the goods which these men stand ready to make. Why should foreigners be encouraged to supply our markets when our own labor is idle?

A VENERABLE Vermonter, whose memory of political events goes back for more than half a century, says the recent apology of Senator GORDON to Senator EDMUNDS, in the United States Senate, "was the first apology made by a Southern Senator or member of Congress to a Northern one in fifty years." And among his own people he has already lost caste terribly for having thus lowered the flag of Southern honor. The newspapers down there are beating the devil's tatto about it.

THE *St. Louis Democrat* says that General COCKRELL, the new Senator from Missouri, is "a lawyer of barely average ability, entirely without experience in public life, without any knowledge of the rules of deliberative bodies, and, so far as we or the people of the State can know, completely unacquainted with those grave problems of state-craft which it will become his duty to solve." But he is a Rebel; and that makes up for all his other deficiencies, in Democratic eyes.

THE production of iron in England has fallen from 3,383,000 tons and £35,996,000 value in 1872, to 2,457,000 tons and £31,225,000 value, last year. The development of our own iron trade is doubtless, in a large degree, the cause of this market decline. The latest British Board of Trade returns also show a continued decrease of exports, and the decline has not yet been checked. The present situation seems to be that there is rather a hopeful expectation of better times prevailing, unaccompanied, however, by any actual revival of business.

THERE are brighter prospects at the various Troy Iron Works. The *Times* says there is a better supply of water on hand, but the danger is and has been that the lake, the source of the supply, will become exhausted. At BURDEN'S forges they are daily receiving accessions of idle working force of puddlers. They have now twenty-seven puddling furnaces in operation and three scrap furnaces. A night shift of work men was put on yesterday, and the forges will be kept running night and day. The RENSSELAER iron works are also in full operation.

THE "unanimous" declaration of those eight Shreveport "brethren" Northern men with Southern principles—to the effect that no lawlessness or political intimidation exists in that defectable locality, is not worth the paper it was written upon. It is natural that every Northern and Western drummer, whose politics are like his wares, for sale at commercial rates, should be found willing to join in the White League chorus on demand. The signers of the statement in question pawned their political consciences on entering into business in Shreveport, and that is all there is of the matter.

THE New York *Times*, after yielding to the pressure from that city on the Louisiana question, and taking the back track when it found itself mistaken, admits that its readers, so far as they took notice of its course, were clearly on the side of the President. It says:

> We are bound to confess, as a simple matter of fact, that two letters out of every three which we have received on the subject are in favor of the President's course, and of General SHERIDAN'S dispatches. And these letters are signed by the workers, and come from all parts of the country. This is a sign of the times to which some people may not be disposed to attach any importance; but we believe that it is generally found that it is not without significance.

WHEN DORR got up his Rebellion in Rhode Island, President TYLER, a Southern States Rights man, thought it his duty to send in the United States troops to help put it down; a Democratic Supreme Court of the United States sustained him in so doing; and the Democratic party of the country stood by him in his action. If it was right in President TYLER to use the United States troops in settling a mere State quarrel been two State governments, both claiming to be regularly and both setting up popular vote in their favor, how does it become wrong in President GRANT to follow the example? We leave it to Democratic experts to solve the conundrum.

THE Wabash and Erie Canal, which was built by the State of Indiana, and leased by it in 1836 to a company, has been surrendered, the lessees being unable to keep it up. They have spent, since 1865, the sum of $136,000 in keeping the canal in repair, and received $314,000 from all sources, being thus $122,000 out of pocket. This canal was built by the State at a great cost, to afford an outlet from the Wabash to the lakes; but the competition of the railroads has taken away business from it, altogether, and the fate of this, and similar undertakings elsewhere, may fairly be cited to show the folly of such schemes as the James River and Kanawha Canal, which the Government is asked to build at a cost of sixty millions. No canal ever yet built in this country has been able to compete successfully with railroads.

IT IS reported that the colliery proprietors of South Wales threaten a general lockout unless all their employees resume work within a week. If this resolution is adhered to, over a hundred thousand persons will be thrown out of employment—a deplorable prospect to contemplate, particularly in mid-winter. Nevertheless it cannot be denied that in the present condition of the labor market, these striking movements are the height of folly. Between the summer of 1871 and the close of last year, colliers' wages in England were increased from fifty to sixty per cent., whilst the subsequent reductions have only aggregated twenty-five percent. The price of coal has within the same period fallen over thirty-per cent. The wages question cannot be regulated independently of the state of trade, though all the trades' unions in the world should attempt it.

THE London *Times* and other English papers, taking their inspirations from a recent speech delivered by WM. M. FORSTER, after his return from the United States, are talking in a mild and suggestive way about an "alliance" between the Government of Great Britain and that of the United States. What for? We already have a treaty of peace with that nation, and any other "alliance," if one be formed, must be either for military or commercial purposes. A military alliance we take to be out of the question, and a commercial alliance is therefore all that is left to talk about. A commercial alliance would of course mean free trade as between the two parties to it, and would make the two commercially one. That is about what the proposed alliance amounts to. The intercourse between the two nations is already unrestricted. The people of each come and go without let or hindrance. It is as easy to go from New York to Liverpool as from New York to New Orleans or San Francisco, and the travel across the ocean is probably greater than that overland to the West or South. It is, at least, as free as any new alliance could make it; and commerce is the only thing left to be affected by new arrangements. Prof. BONAMY PRICE and the other English lecturers having failed to impress upon us the English ideas of finance and trade, the next best thing for the Free Traders to do is to talk about an "alliance" between two nations having a great many things already in common, that will hereafter practically make them one, commercially, financially and otherwise.

THE STRUGGLE IN SPAIN.

All the royal governments of Europe are naturally pleased with the restoration of the monarchy in Spain, and will of course do what they can by recognition, if in no other way, to strengthen ALFONSO the Twelfth in his position. The Spaniards also, except the faction of the Northern provinces, are as a rule gratified that they once more have a chief of the State to whom they can look up, and the nature of whose authority they feel able to comprehend, a condition of mind not possible to them under a republic. To the average Spaniard a republic is necessarily a mystery, something strange and puzzling. The Russian rabble which, a good many years ago, broke into revolt in favor of "CONSTANTINE and the constitution," the cry with which they bawled themselves hoarse, when asked what they meant by "constitution," replied that "constitution was the new coach in which the Czar was to drive." Many Spanish republicans are not, from all accounts, much more enlightened than those poor Muscovites.

Carlism seems to be the only substantial difficulty with which Don ALFONSO has to contend. It was believed that many officers in the Carlist ranks were Alfonsists who had joined Don CARLOS merely to fight against the republic and in favor of the Catholic Church. These officers were expected to abandon the Carlist cause as soon as they should learn that Don ALFONSO had been proclaimed. This expectation does not appear to have been realized, but they may have been waiting for the proclamation of amnesty announced in our impression of yesterday. As to the military strength of the Carlists, and as to the military strength which the King can direct against them, full details have been lately published. To ascertain the exact force of the rebels is, however, not easy. Prisoners, deserters and spies are the chief sources of information. Upon the data thus gathered Spaniards believe that Don CARLOS has a force of somewhere between 30,000 and 40,000 men, most likely about 37,000 A considerable portion of these troops are thoroughly drilled and pretty well armed. Within the last eight months Don CARLOS is known to have received by sea at least thirty pieces of artillery, including several WITWORTH guns. He has also captured from the enemy a dozen KRUPP guns of good caliber and a number of mountain howitzers. He claims to have two artillery regiments of 800 men each. The Carlist cavalry is estimated at 1,200 men; poorly mounted, however, the officers alone having good horses, and the privates for the most part having only the small untrained nags of the Northern provinces, generally in poor condition.

On the other hand, the force of which Don ALFONSO has just taken the nominal command, consists of about 70,000 effective men of all arms. It has nineteen batteries, consisting of one hundred and fourteen cannons, served by 2,800 trained artillerists. The cavalry is said to be feeble in number and quality, consisting of only about 3,220 men, many of whom are not much better mounted than their Carlist antagonists.

A correspondent of a Paris journal comparing the forces arrayed against each other in Spain, expresses the opinion, that if the Carlists were commanded by men of genuine military talents, if another ZUMALACARREGUI, another CABRERA appeared among them, if the courage inspired by fanaticism and simple faith were not in part neutralized by the moral weakness of many of their officers, mere adventurers, if Don CARLOS himself possessed great personal qualities, if in fine, their chiefs were not divided by mutual jealousies and hateful intrigues, then an army of 150,000 men would not find it easy to subdue them. Commanded as the Carlists are, however, the correspondent is convinced that they can be overcome by the Spanish army of the North. Still, he thinks, the victory will cost dear, and to obtain it will require great courage, great skill and not less prudence. It seems also that, while representatives of Spain abroad make light of the Carlist strength, Spaniards at home do not underestimate the difficulties of the task of ending the rebellion. They admit that the Carlists still remain entire as an organized force holding and commanding nearly the whole area of the Basque provinces, in which the National Government has scarcely any friends upon whom to depend for trustworthy information. The country is of a character easily defended, abounding in strong natural fortresses, so to say. With the advantages of the Carlist position they are able to move with the utmost facility, and by a single night's march to mass nearly all their forces in one place without the knowledge of the enemy. And while they thus move about without baggage, "living at home," the National forces are compelled to carry with them whatever they need for subsistence. Moreover, for the present, the season, winter, is a great disadvantage to the Alfonsist forces. Hence there seems no good reason to expect a speedy termination of the Carlist rebellion, unless the compromise between Don ALFONSO and Don CARLOS, reported in yesterday's dispatches, should prove to be a fact.

Just now the prospective condition of Spain happens to be a subject of more than common interest in this country, as the indications are that the Cuban question and American relations to Spain may at any time become subjects of general consideration.

THE Democrats of Boston and New York did not call indignation meetings to denounce the Government when United States troops were called out by President PIERCE to enforce the infamous Fugitive Slave law. Commercial Boston and Commercial New York looked on *that* use of the troops as perfectly proper and legitimate. Southern merchants and traders owned slaves, and it was necessary to the prosperity of the Southern trade that runaway niggers should be taken up and returned to their masters, if it took the whole United States army to do it. But to use the same troops to enforce the law in Louisiana is a different thing. Circumstances alter cases. The bayonets of the Government, used in support of Southern slaveholders, is one thing, and the same bayonets turned against the same men, is quite another thing. Old Gunnybags can explain the difference to you, down to a dot; but when he has got through explaining it all amounts to this, that the Southern slave hunters of PIERCE'S time, and the Southern White League conspirators of GRANT'S time, are our customers, and while it was all right to help them hunt their runaways, it is all wrong to punish them for conspiring to murder and expel all who will not do their diddling.

IN THE Louisiana debate, Senator LOGAN quoted from the Atlanta (Georgia) *News*, a piece of advice to the White Leaguers to rise upon the United States troops and crush them, and referred to it as a Democratic sheet. Senator GORDON, of Georgia, denied that it was a Democratic paper, and said that it did not reflect the opinions of the people of Georgia; whereupon the *News* thus responds to the cheeky GORDON, and so puts him in the vocative case:

> "As we have never voted for any others than Democrats from the day we were entitled to a vote to the present hour, it does strike us as rather rough to have it proclaimed that we are not a Democrat. Certainly, while we were laboring personally and with our pen to secure Senator Gordon's election to the United States Senate, the honorable gentleman did not hold that we did not belong to the Democratic party. That he must have thought our services of value is unquestionable, for he was most profuse in his expressions of thanks after the election, and even asked us if he could serve us in return. At that time we were a good enough Democrat for Senator Gordon, and as we are the same now that we were then, the Senator must be the one who has changed.
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> "We have been too long in journalism not to know that men in political life possess convenient memories, and that gratitude, in spite of its cheapness, is one of the rarest elements of a politician. Still, we had not supposed that Senator Gordon would seek to offer us up as a victim to propitiate Radical wrath, or that in the offering he would distort facts and indulge in assertions that he must know are without foundation."

IN A Grevenbroich newspaper an able article was published lately on the origin, in Germany, of the belief in witches. Among other things the writer showed that the sanguinary persecution of witches and magicians, which cost so many persons their lives in Germany, was set on foot by the infallible Pope INNOCENT the Eighth, and was was promoted by his successors in the Papal chair. This article was extensively circulated by the Liberal journals and it caused considerable stir, especially among the rural population on the lower Rhine. They were not prepared to see such an illustration of the dogma of infallibility. The Ultramontanes were greatly troubled on the subject, and as they could not refute the statements of the paper, in their newspaper organs they denounced the statements as untrue, as falsification of history, etc. Whereupon HERR VON ZYCCALMAGLIO, a high legal functionary, pledged himself (through the press) to contribute the sum of two thousand Prussian dollars as Peter's-pence, if any single one of the statements in the article referred to could be proved to be untrue. This liberal offer has naturally attracted a good deal of attention, and has rather increased than lessened the embarrassment of the Ultramontanes. It may, however, be rather difficult to find an arbitrator in whom both parties will be willing to confide. The incident is not void of interest as illustrating the controversy at present going on in Germany.

THE Rochester (N. Y.) *Union*, an unadulterated Democratic sheet, declares for itself, and on behalf of its party, that it regards "the offense of SHERIDAN at New Orleans as a thousand times more repugnant and fatal to civil government than was the offense of JEFF. DAVIS." Of course it does. And the reason is plain. The *Union*, and the Democratic party generally, never thought JEFF. DAVIS guilty of *any* offense. He merely rebelled against the Government and tried to set up another government in its place; and that is no offense in Democratic eyes. But SHERIDAN has been guilty of calling things by their right names. He has held up the Louisiana Democracy to contempt, by branding them as banditti, and by parading the list of 3,600 murders they have committed. He also believes in enforcing the laws and in preventing the Louisiana Democracy from cheating themselves into power. That is his offense, and JEFF. DAVIS' crime is as nothing compared with it. Armed rebellion and conspiracy is either no offense at all, or too slight a one to merit condemnation; but to put down such rebellion, and to check an armed conspiracy, is the unpardonable sin in Democratic estimation.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

That judicial can-can is in full blast again in Brooklyn.

Tracy's examination of Moulton was a *cross* examination.

Ohio has a bill in the Legislature fixing the charges of telegraph companies.

The importation of lead into New York decreased about twenty per cent. last year.

All is as quiet on the Potomac as ice can make it. That historic stream is frozen over.

Sam Ward, monarch of that potent realm, the lobby, is a brother of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

Beecher's death from apoplexy during the present scandal trial is thought to be not at all improbable.

Bill King, the gentleman of heaven knows where, has not yet made his appearance where wanted.

Poor work, poor pay. It is proposed to fix the salaries of members of the Illinois Legislature at $200 a year.

And now Germany is suffering the industrial depression and compilcation consequent on a terrible war.

Schumaker ought to be of immense assistance to the Democratic party in purifying the politics of the country.

Democratic Tennessee is about to repudiate. It is stated that the interest on her bonds due in July will not be paid.

Russia is trying on a large scale the experiment of educating women for the medical profession. It should succeed.

Young Alfonso's allowance has been fixed at 28,000,000 reals, or $5,500,000, which ought to prove a real comfort to him.

A man named Mutton has a suit against a Wisconsin railroad company for being put off the cars at the wrong station.

The manufacture of agricultural implements, it is stated, is beginning to feel the incentive of an increased demand.

It is stated that Evarts is retained by Yale College for Beecher, as a testimonial to him, and that Yale is to pay him $10,000.

Telegraphy is becoming marvellously perfected. Recently, 3,020 words were sent over a single wire in ninety minutes.

There is a great revival among the publishers in England of the literature of controversy. Politics and religion divide the hour.

Anna Dickinson is about to go upon the stage, she not being content with the present talkative part she plays in the drama of life.

The school teachers in Ireland ask an increase of wages, and the fact that they venture to do this is a hopeful sign for that country.

Queen Victoria wishes her people would be more economical, and "dress as the peasants do." Then the girl of the period would die.

It is rumored that one of Schumaker's female relatives is at death's door, through the trouble which has come of the recent revelations.

The *Post* thinks there is too great a general hazeness about Gen. Hazen's recent North Pacific Railroad article in the *American Review*.

The Buffalo *Express* says there is no class of business in that city in a more prosperous condition than its manufactures. This is encouraging.

Sairey Gamp's occupation is in danger. The subject of educating nurses is being earnestly discussed in many of the large cities of the Union.

China wants to be let a loan. She asks $3,138,375, is willing to count ninety-five cents a dollar, and give eight per cent. per annum as interest.

Annanias was present for a moment at a recent Louisville seance, held in the office of the *Courier-Journal*. He embraced Watterson most affectionately.

One vessel recently took out $300,000 worth of machinery from Philadelphia to South America, and similar shipments are noticed from New England ports.

A heavy squadron of fiery steeds. The total number of locomotive steam engines in the world is 45,667, of which 14,223, or nearly one-third, are in the United States.

Our St. Petersburg Secretary of Legation, Eugene Schuyler, writes this year again the annual article on Russian literature for the London *Athenæum*. It is admirably done.

The prosperity of those Americans who gather round the pyramids and let forty centuries look at 'em is exasperating. Col. Gordon is to be raised to the dignity of Pasha.

Moulton will go down in history as the great American witness. A keener, warier, more imperturbable, more thoroughly self-possessed man never sat in front of a jury.

New York city has 304 public schools, with 3,039 teachers, and an aggregate of 251,545 pupils receiving instruction. The sanitary accommodations afforded are, however, totally inadequate.

Good. General T. T. Eckert, the new President of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company, says he intends to devote himself to the task of affording cheap telegraphic facilities to the public.

The request made by the European syndicate for an extension of time for six months from February 1st within which to subscribe for the remainder of our new five per cent. bonds, has been granted.

A correspondent inquires the age of ex-Governor Magoffin, of Kentucky. We are unable to answer. He was born when Bourbon whisky was invented, and has steadily kept pace with it ever since.

"The cup which cheers but not inebriates." There are stored in New York and other seaports 75,000,000 pounds of tea, with 10,000,000 in addition, to arrive within a few weeks, or nearly three years' supply for the entire country.

Music for the million. It has been discovered that, by the application of electric communication any number of pianos can be performed upon at once by the person who touches the keys of the central one. The idea is to be utilized.

A living death. There is a man in a Chicago hospital, a victim of a railroad accident, whose head is alive, but his entire body seems to be dead; knives have been stuck into his body, but they produce no effect upon him whatever.

CORN.

A Fine New American Poem.

The following striking poem appears in the February number of *Lippincott's Magazine*, and should be read by all:

To-day the woods are trembling through and through
With shimmering forms, that flash into my view.
Then melt in green as dawn-stars melt in blue.
The leaves that wave against my cheek caress
Like women's hands: the embracing boughs express
A subtlety of mighty tenderness;
The copse-depths into little noises start,
That sound anon like beatings of a heart.
Anon like talk twixt lips not far apart.
The beech dreams balm, as a dreamer hums a song,
Through whose vague sweet float expirations strong
From lithe young hickories, breathed deep and long
With stress and urgence bold of inward spring,
And ecstacy of burgeoning.
Now, since the dew-plashed road of morn is dry,
Come dauntier smells, linked in soft company,
Like velvet-slippered ladies pacing by.
Long museadines,
Like Jove's Jooks curled round forehead of great pines,
Breathe out ambrosial passion from their vines.
I pray with mosses, ferns and flowers shy
That hide like gentle nuns from human eye,
To lift adoring odors to the sky.
I hear faint bridal sighs of blissful green,
Dying to kindred silences serene,
As dim lights melt into a pleasant sheen.
I start at fragmentary whispers, blown
From undertalks of leafy love unknown,
Vague purports sweet, of inarticulate tone.
Dreaming of gods, men, nuns and brides, between
Old companies of oaks that inward lean
To join their radiant amplitudes of green,
I slowly move, with tangling looks that pass
Up from the matted miracles of grass
Into yon veined complex of space,
Where sky and leafage interlace
So close the heaven of blue is seen
Inwoven with a heaven of green.

I wander to the zigzag cornered fence
Where rank sassafras intrenched in brambles dense,
Contests with stolid vehemence.
The march of culture, setting limb and thorn,
Like pikes, against the army of the corn.

There, white, I pause, before mine eyes,
Out of the silent corn-ranks, rise
Inward dignities
And large benignities and insights wise,
Very desirable modest majesties.
Thus, without tith, I rouse a wondrous
yield;

Thus, without theft, I reap another's field,
And store quintuple harvests in my heart
concealed.

See, out of a line a single corn-stem stands
Advanced beyond the foremost of his hands,
And waves his blades to the very edge
And hottest thicket of the battling hedge.
Thou lustrous stalk, that canst nor walk nor
talk,
Still dost thou type the poet-soul sublime
That leads the vanward of its timid time,
And sings up cowards with commanding
rhyme—
Soul calm, like thee, yet fain, like thee, to
grow
By double increment, above, below:
Soul homely, as thou art, yet rich in grace
like thee,
Teaching the yeoman selfless chivalry,
That moves in gentle curves of courtesy;
Soul filled like thy long veins with sweetness
dense
By every godlike sense
Transmuted from the four wild elements.
Toward the empyrean
Thou reachest higher up than mortal man,
Yet ever yearest downward in the mould,
And keepest hold
Upon the reverend and steadfast earth
That gave thee birth.
Yea, standest smiling in thy very grave,
Serene and brave,
With unremitting breath,
Inhaling life from death,
Thine epitaph writ fair in fruitage eloquent,
Thy living self thy monument.

As poets should,
Thou hast built up thy hardihood
With wondrous varying food,
Drawn in select proportion fair
From solid mould and vagrant air;
From terrors of the dreadful night,
And joyful lights;
From antique ashes, whose departed flame
In thee has finer life and longer fame,
From wounds and balms;
From storms and calms,
From potsherds and dry bones,
And ruin-stones.
So to thy vigorous substance thou hast
wrought
Whate'er the hand of Circumstance hath
brought:
Yea, into cool solacing green hast spun
White radiance hot from out the sun.
So thou dost mutually leaven
Strength of earth with grace of heaven:
So thou dost marry new and old
Into a one of higher mould:
So thou does reconcile the hot and cold.
The dark and bright,
And many a heart-perplexing opposite:
And so,
Akin by blood to high and low,
Fitly thou playest out thy poet's part,
Richly expending thy much-praised heart
In equal care to nourish lord and
Or beast in stall:
Thou took'st from all that thou might'st give
to all.

O steadfast dweller on the selfsame spot
Where thou wast born, that still repinest not—
Type of the home-fond heart, the happy lot!—
Beryl by night still constant to the sun,
Whose flimsy homes, built on the shifting
sand
Of trade, for ever rise and fall
With alternation whimsical,
Bartering scarce a day,
Then swept away
By swift engulfments of inexplicable tides
Whereon capricious Commerce rides.

Look, thou substantial spirit of content!
Across this little vale, thy continent,
Yon end doomed Georgian lifts the ball,
And dreamed himself a tiller of the soil.
Scorning the slow reward of patient grain,
He sowed his soul with hopes of swifter
gain;
Then sailed him down and waited for the rain.
He sailed in borrowed ships of usury—
A foolish fiasco on a treacherous sea,
Seeking the Fleece and finding misery.
Lulled by smooth-rippling loans, in idle
trance,
He lay, content that unthrift Circumstance
Should plow for him the stony field of
Chance.
Yea, gathering crops whose worth no man
might scan,
He staked his life on a game of Buy-and-Sell,
And turned each field into a gambler's hell.
Ave, as each year began,
My farmer to the neighboring city ran,
Paused with a mournful anxious face
Into the banker's inner place;
Parleyed, excused, pleaded for longer grace,
Railed at the drought, the worm, the frost, the
grass,
Protested ne'er again 'twould come to pass
Such troops of ills his labors should harass;
Politely swallowed scorching questious rude,
And kissed the dust to melt the flinty mood.
At last, small loans by pledges great renewed.
He leaves smirking from the fatal door.
And buys with lavish hand his empty store,
Till his small borrowings will yield no more.
Ave, each year's end, with harvest poor,
With better heart and overcrooding mind,
He mourned his fate unkind.
He dined, in rain, his spirit and main,
He cursed his cotton, cursed his grain,
Fretted for news that made him fret again;
Snatched at each telegram of Future Sale,
And thrilled with Bulls' and Bears' alternate
wail—
In hope or fear alike for every pale.
And thus from year to year, through hope
and fear,
With many a curse and many a secret tear,
Striving in vain his cloud of debt to clear.
At last
He woke to find his foolish dreaming past,
Behold his land in the easy prey
Of quacks and scamps and all the vile array
That line the way,
From thieving statesman down to petty
Knave.
Yea, saw himself, for all his bragging brave,
A gamester's catspaw and a banker's slave.
Then, worn and gray, and sick with deep unrest,
He fled away into the oblivious West,
Unmourned, unblest.

Old hill! old hill! thou gashed and hairy
Scar,
Where the divine Cordelia of the year,
E'en pitying Spring, will vainly strive to
cheer—

King, but too poor for any man to own,
Discrowned, undaughtered and alone,
Yet shall the great God turn thy fate,
And bring thee back into thy monarch's state
By modest summer hate.
So, through hot waverings of the August
morn,
A vision of great treasuries of corn
Thou bearest in thy vasty sides forlorn,
For largesse to some future, bolder heart
That manfully shall take thy part,
And tend thee,
And defend thee,
With antique shew and with modern art.

SIDNEY LANIER.

PERSONAL.

The rumor that Senator Nye is dying is pronounced incorrect. He is at his daughter's house in New York city, and is not even an invalid.

Hon. A. S. Paddock, United States Senator elect from Nebraska, is a native of New York State, and is distantly connected with the families of Gideon Wolfes and General W. T. Sherman. He is forty-four years of age, and has been living in Nebraska since 1866.

At the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. George Baird, of Green Village, Morris county, N. J., last week, the fact was acknowledged by the aged couple that never in their lives, during their courtship and marriage, had they kissed each other. Tranquil, no doubt; but mighty dull.

Hon. Augustus F. Allen, member of Congress elect from the Chautauqua and Cattaraugus district of New York, who died at Jamestown last week, is the third member elect of the Forty-fourth Congress who has died, the others being Garrett McMillan of the Ninth Georgia district, and John W. Head of the Fourth Tennessee.

Miss Snead, who, as "Miss Grundy" is familiar to most newspaper readers, is dangerously ill; she has been in poor health for two or three years. Miss Snead deserves a separate niche in the history of Washington journalism. She was the first "society writer" from Washington city, and with the exception of "Fay," in the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, and "Gleaner," of a Cincinnati paper, decidedly the best of the hundreds who have tried to imitate her.

An interesting relic of a bygone time has lately disappeared, with the death of Lord Byron's valet, Falcieri, at the age of seventy-eight. After the poet's death his friend Sir John Hobhouse, afterward Lord Broughton, took Falcieri into his employ as courier. Before long, however, the courier returned to his former calling, and continued to serve as valet with Isaac Disraeli, author of "The Curiosities of Literature," and father of the present Prime Minister, until his master's death. In 1852, Lord Broughton got him a berth as messenger at the Board of Control, which he held until his decease.

The Sandy Hill, New York, *Herald* publishes the following brilliant letter from an eminent Troy practitioner:

Troy Jan 10th 1875

to Dr C farley from ——

Dear Brother of the Profession Hearin the new that you are going to Leave Sandy Hill and going Whitehall Dear sir is Sandy Hill a good Place for a Homeopathic or Electic Physician How Many Drug Stores is in Sandy Hill troy is a good Place for Practice But a Poor one for Money i have got all i Can do But nothing for it Will you Pleas Let me know if it Would Be good for me their if so send enformation on it i am a Homeopathic or Eclictic Phisician a f r s f g s f l s M D. Pleas send soon Your Brother of the Profession.

The South From a Southern Standpoint.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I occasionally pick up the New York *Tribune*, but cannot read long until I find it just as uncongenial as any Copperhead sheet in the country; not, perhaps, so vulgar as such sheets generally are, but quite the same spirit—the same spirit that party showed during the war.

Nothing the Government did to save the life of the Union suited that party—nothing was constitutional. It was entirely constitutional to break up the Union, but unconstitutional to save it. So now, with the New York *Tribune*, it is all right for White Leaguers to murder negroes by the thousand, but it is all wrong for President Grant to prevent it and preserve law and order. How shocking—how sickening it is to one who had been a constant reader of that paper while it was edited by that grand and good man, Horace Greeley—from what a light it has fallen! It was then an honest and able leader and friend of the people; it was especially the friend of the poor, oppressed and despised black man; but the present *Tribune* is only like the former in appearance. It wears the same dress, but it is a whited sepulchre, filled with dead men's bones. It was once a true and trusted leader of the people; now it is a mere reflector of the roguish and "banditti"—an insincere, hypocritical sheep—its motive power malice and prejudice—a sheep not able to comprehend the thought that a newspaper which sets itself up as a leader of the people assumes a most solemn responsibility. Under the noble Greeley—all honor to his memory—it would tell the truth if the heavens fell. Now it is a political dead fall, and in nothing has its lying propensities been so conspicuous as in what it contains on the Louisiana troubles. It is far, far worse than the "Satanic" *Herald*, which used to be so disgusted by Mr. Greeley, and who gave it the name which to some extent still clings to it.

See how the *Tribune* sympathizes with the White Leaguers, and how bitterly it denounces President Grant in his efforts to save the lives of citizens of the United States. Old Horace, if alive, would say a good deal that would not protect the poorest and weakest of its citizens was not worthy the name of a government. It is a shame and disgrace that the Government tolerates such high handed murder of its citizens, and that, too, only because they see fit to differ with these cut-throats in their political opinions. Life and property are not secure in the United States than in any other civilized country in the world. The grand object of government is protection to life and property, and when it does not do this, it fails in the object of its creation.

AN EX-DEMOCRAT.

NEW ORLEANS, January 20, 1875.

A windy diet. A new hotel in San Francisco is to have a band of twenty performers regularly attached to the house.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from 6 to 8 o'clock. 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of six per cent. Capital invested by 1st of last month of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
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Ninth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.
The House has been recently renovated and improved, over $50,000 having been expended in Furniture and Gas Fixtures. Prices to suit the times. $3 00 PER DAY.

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Saturday, Jan. 23d.
AT
WM. SEMPLE'S,
165, 167 and 169
FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY
Very Attractive Bargains
IN
Goods for Ladies' Wear
BLACK MOHAIR ALPACAS.
We have just opened a large invoice of BLACK ALPACAS, at 25c, 37½c, 45c, 50c per yard and upward, all of which will be found to be the best possible value for the prices named.
Black All-Wool Cashmeres
At 87½c, $1 00 and upward, which will compare favorably with goods at from one-fourth to one-third higher.
At 37½c, Black Empress Cloth, worth 62½c.
At 50c, Garnet Colored Silk Poplin, worth 87½c.
At $1 00, Real Silk French Poplins, worth $1 75.
Bargains in Fine Dress Goods, all kinds.
At 12½ cents, 15 cents and 18½ cents Very Desirable Dark Dress Goods.
Bargains in Black Dress Silks, all qualities.
Choice Colored Dress Silks, at very low prices.
Evening and Wedding Dress Silks, extra bargains.
Mourning Dress Goods, every description.
Children's Dress Goods, great variety.
Choice Tycoon Reps for Wrappers.
At 25c, All-Wool Figured Cashmeres for Wrappers, well worth 50c.
EXTRA GOOD BARGAINS IN
Ladies' Made-Up Suits,
In all desirable Material—Latest Styles.
At $2 50, Ladies' Felt Suits, worth $6 00.
THE LOWEST PRICES.
Ladies' and Children's Furs, all kinds.
Ladies' Jackets and Sacques, some very fine.
Paisley and Woolen Shawls.
Mourning Shawls, all qualities.
GREAT
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SALE!
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WORTH OF
Dry Goods
Marked Down to Close Out!
James Caldwell & Co.
Have Marked Down the Prices of their Large Stock of Dry Goods with a view to Close Out, preparatory to Removing to their New Store in the Fall.
Buyers in want of Goods will find this a rare opportunity to purchase Choice Goods, at Low Prices, as many Goods will be sold
REGARDLESS OF COST.
The Stock is now Complete in Every Department.
To Secure Choice Seasonable Goods it will be necessary to call early.
A choice lot of Pure Silk Warp Hernanis reduced from $1 25 to $1 00 per yard.
Black French Silks, from $1 50 to $1 25 per yard.
Black Alpacas, from 50c to 37 1-2c per yard.
Chintzes, from 31c to 20c per yard.
Fancy Dress Goods, from 25c to 15c per yard.
James Caldwell & Co.,
118 and 120
Federal St., Allegheny.
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DOMESTIC CHAMPAGNE.
M. Werk & Son's Golden Eagle; M. Werk & Son's Dry Golden Eagle; Island Queen, Golden Eagle, Sparkling California, Golden Leaf Sparkling Catawba, H. Piper & Co., Grape Leaf Sparkling Catawba, Prize Medal, Sparkling Napoleon.
FRENCH BRANDIES,
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Old Pinet, Castillon & Co., 1830; L. Furland & Co., Cognac; Geo. Sayers & Co., Cognac; Jules Robin & Co., Cognac; Otard, Dupuy & Co., Cognac; Renault & Co., Cognac; James Hennessy & Co., Cognac; J. & F. Martell, Cognac.
HOLLAND GINS,
(FINE IMPORTED.)
Von Dulken, Weiland & Co., Rotterdam; Jacoby & Co., Schiedam; Vonthofen & Co., Amsterdam.
STILL WINES.
Catawba and Rhine Wine by the bottle; Sherry, Port,

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SAFE LIGHT IT Cannot be Exploded. ELAINE THE FAMILY SAFEGUARD OIL. WARDEN & OXNARD, PITTSBURGH, PA.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, January 25, 1875.

There was to-day a slight ripple of interest, of a peculiar character, manifested in banking circles; clerks were busy overhauling papers and vouchers filed away in vaults and safes, and carefully scrutinizing each item as it passed through their hands. The two cent revenue stamp market also stiffened up quite perceptibly and the demand was so lively that it gave rise to the surmise that the Government had ceased to print these precious ornaments with which merchants are supposed to garnish their orders on their bankers for money. The occasion of this patriotic effort to increase the revenue of the Government, was the presence in town of a special agent of the Treasury Department, who had announced himself at one of the Fourth avenue banks and commenced a careful examination of their vouchers, in hopes of finding unstamped checks. The news of his presence spread rapidly, and we opine that he will find everything serene in any social calls he may make to-morrow.

The money market is otherwise quiet, and loans are negotiated without much difficulty by parties in good standing, at rates varying at bank from eight to ten per cent., and on the street at rates varying from ten to twelve per cent.

—The stock market is very feverish and uncertain. Pennsylvania stock is well sustained at 55¾, and Reading 7s have advanced to 82, but otherwise the market has an unsteady tendency. The attack on the Western Union still continues, and the stock was forced down to 71¾ during the day. Every possible means, both fair and foul, are being used to depress the price. A pamphlet reviewing the history of the stock has been issued, in which it is claimed that most of the present capital is water. Another of the depressing influences is the bill of Representative White, of Alabama, intended "for cheapening telegraphic communication, facilitating news reports for all press associations, and for preventing telegraphic and news monopolies."

The bill enacts that "the charges for the transmission of telegrams, excepting Government telegrams, shall be at the following rates for telegrams of twenty words or less:" The rates are 30 cents for less than 200 miles; 200 to 500 miles, 50 cents; 500 to 750, 75 cents; 750 to 1,000, $1 00; all greater distances, $1 25; night messages, 20 cents per 1,000 miles or less, special delivery within half a mile of the office being included. All Government dispatches shall have priority in transmission, without prepayment, "and at rates to be annually fixed by the Postmaster General;" all other dispatches shall be transmitted in the order of their receipt, and very much more to the same purpose. Now, no sane lawyer would risk his reputation by giving an opinion that the powers thus sought to be delegated to a telegraph company are within the constitutional powers of Congress, so the irresistable conclusion is that the bill is framed for the purpose of depressing Western Union.

—The bulls felt decidedly more comfortable yesterday, and some actually smiled on the situation. Those whose margins were swept away on Thursday were out of sorts. To them the reaction has come too comfortingly and lasting. They were out and injured beyond redemption. The only consolation left them was to utter profane exclamnations from time to time. While money has unquestionably been made and will of the dealing in "puts" and "calls" and unscrupulous operators, a large number of people of small means have suffered and will be obliged to remain on the outside, purchasing at higher and giving heaps of advice. Opie was strong in the Board yesterday afternoon. Between Nine and Ten o'clock he reached $210, and was still in demand. Taking $105 as the lowest point reached there was an advance of $105 per share, which is a handsome turn for those who had courage enough to stick. The actual cash price, Savage returned to $180, an advance of $75 per share—quite a remarkable advance. Mexican was the better, during the same time in proportion.

The main features of the afternoon Board were Bullion and Raymond & Ely, both of which ran up to high figures on a rather large Quantities of the latter changed hands, at 11, in spite of the fact that it is in good demand, and is fairly quotable at 7@8c on the curb. Ophir was also quite active, and closed at 9¾, with a handsome demand. Eclipse and Belcher were also quite active, and closed at 6¾@7c per share. Crown Point was also in demand, and closed at 6¾@7c. Gould & Curry was quiet and steady at 6¾@7c. Consolidated Virginia was in good demand, and is fairly quotable at 7@8c on the curb. Outside of the Comstock list, stocks were dull and unchanged. We quote at 6¾@7c for Alpha; 6¾@7c for Justice; 6¾@7c for Imperial; 6¾@7c for Exchequer; 6¾@7c for Confidence; 6¾@7c for Union; 6¾@7c for Hale & Norcross; 6¾@7c for Savage; 6¾@7c for Mexican; 6¾@7c for Yellow Jacket; 6¾@7c for Kentuck; 6¾@7c for Overman; 6¾@7c for Belcher; 6¾@7c for Crown Point; 6¾@7c for Ophir; 6¾@7c for Gould & Curry; 6¾@7c for Consolidated Virginia; 6¾@7c for California; 6¾@7c for Bullion; 6¾@7c for Raymond & Ely; 6¾@7c for Eclipse; 6¾@7c for Sierra Nevada; 6¾@7c for Silver Hill; 6¾@7c for Andes; 6¾@7c for Belmont; 6¾@7c for Utah; 6¾@7c for Imperial; 6¾@7c for Grand Prize

THE

Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR ONE [illegible] per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will [illegible] daily to travelers or to subscri[illegible] who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 34, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 25, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A.M..	30.25	22	59	W.	Fresh.	Clear.
2 P.M..	30.29	28	67	W.	Brisk.	Clear.
9 P.M..	30.42	18	68	N.	Go'tle.	Clear.

Mean barometer....30.34 Highest thermom....34
Mean thermom.....31 Lowest thermom.....18

Eighth Ward Republicans.

A meeting of Republicans of the Eighth ward was held last evening, at which suggestions for nomination of ward officers were made as given below:

Alderman—Samuel J. Friedley, Henry Wilson, William Graham.

Select Council—J. Guy McCandless, John Knowland.

Common Council—William Moore, John S. Lambie, William Kerr and Charles Reed.

School Director—Jos. J. Booth.

The primary election will be held on Saturday next.

Allegheny Mortuary Report.

Health officer Hoch of Allegheny reports the following for the past week:

Typhoid fever carried off 5; capillary bronchitis, 3; scarlet fever, 2; convulsions, pneumonia, 2; still born, 3, and the following one each: Cerebro spinal meningitis, meningitis, unknown (2), scrofula, asthma consumption, phiitis-pulmonary, gastritis, dysentary, suicide, hydrocephalus, premature birth, hydropericardium, freezing, congestion of brain, whooping cough, marasmus, angina pectoris, softening of the brain, pleuro-pneumonia and inflamation of bowels. Total, forty-one; whites, thirty-eight; colored, three; males, twenty-three; females, seventeen.

A Thorough Success.

A Turkish and Russian bathing establishment was an untried experiment in in this city until about two weeks ago, when Mr. A. J. Greenawalt, No. 11 Wylie avenue, opened his doors for the reception of the public. This fact was announced at the time in these columns, and the opinion expressed that the enterprise would meet with due appreciation and be sustained by a liberal patronage. Thus far everything points to the fulfilment of our prediction, numbers of our citizens and neighbors having availed themselves of the opportunity to indulge in the safe, healthful and agreeable luxury of a Turkish bath. The success of Mr. Greenawalt's undertaking is already assured, and we take pleasure in recording this happy result of his well directed efforts. It is useless in this connection to refer to the high endorsements which the Turkish bath has received at the hands of the medical fraternity, as its efficiency both in health and disease is sufficiently known to the general reader, and we only desire to state that the establishment which has been opened in this city is fully in keeping with any in the leading cities of the United States.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician of the Board of Health, makes the following mortuary report for the week ending January 23, 1875. There were 71 deaths, 69 white and 2 colored. Of these, 25 were married, 43 single, 1 widow and 2 widowers. The nativity was: Pittsburgh, 34; other parts of the United States, 13; England, 1; France, 1; Germany, 8; Ireland, 14. The ages were: Under 1 year, 12; from 1 to 2 years, 13; from 2 to 5 years, 8; from 5 to 10 years, 2; from 15 to 20 years, 3; from 20 to 30 years, 5; from 30 to 40 years, 7; from 40 to 50 years, 8; from 50 to 60 years, 7; from 60 to 70 years, 2; from 70 to 80 years, 3; from 80 to 90 years, 1. The causes of death were: Alcoholism, 1; accident, burn, 2; accident, railroad, 3; bronchitis, capillary, 3; cerebritis, 1; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; consumption, 9; convulsions, 1; croup, 1; diphtheritis, 1; dentition, morbid, 1; dysentery, acute, 1; erysipelas, 1; embolism, 1; fever, typhoid, 1; fever, scarlet, 7; fracture base of skull, 1; gastro enteritis, 1; heart, fatty, 1; hemiplegia, 1; imperforate rectum, 1; liver, congestion of, 1; lungs, congestion of, 2; meningitis, 1; old age, 1; premature birth, 1; pneumonitis, 14; pericarditis, 1; peritonitis, 1; puerperal convulsions, 1; smallpox, 1; syphilis, congenital, 1; scarlatina, 1; tetanus, traumatic, 1, unknown, 2; whooping cough, 2.

Cases of infectious diseases reported during the week: Scarlet fever, 12; typhoid fever, 6; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; diphtheria, 2; small-pox and varioloid, 2; total, 23.

PROHIBITION.

Meeting Yesterday—Resolutions Against the Repeal of the Local Option Law.

The Executive Committee of the Prohibitionists, met yesterday morning, Mr. Rabe in the chair.

The bill offered by Mr. Tower, in the House of Representatives, in favor of repealing the Local Option law, was read, and after some remarks from the Rev. Rogers, Rev. Ormond, and Rev. Beacome, the following committee was appointed to draft resolutions in opposition to repealing the law: Revs. E. E. Swift, Ormond and W. H. Phipps.

The committee retired and soon after returned and presented the following report, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, The present Local Option law is an agreement entered into between the Legislature and the people, for the term of three years, and

WHEREAS, The repeal of the same, except with the consent of both parties concerned in its enaction, would be a breach of faith; therefore,

Resolved, That we earnestly protest against the effort in the present Legislature for its repeal.

Resolved, secondly, That we expect our Representatives in the present Legislature to oppose its repeal and to sustain the present Local Option law; and

Resolved, thirdly, That a mass convention of all who are opposed to such repeal of the present Local Option law be called to meet in the Alliance rooms in Pittsburgh, on Monday, February 1, 1875, at 11 A. M.

Resolved, further, that the ministers of the city and county be requested to publish this call from their pulpits next Sabbath.

Adjourned.

A GREAT RELIEF.

The Sale of Seats for the Opera at Library Hall—Dr. Hostetter Takes the First Choice at $650—Nearly $3,000 Realized.

There was quite a lively contest at Library Hall yesterday morning, on the occasion of the sale of seats at auction for admission to the opera of the "Bohemian Girl," to be rendered by the Gounod Club, for the benefit of the Relief Association. The sale commenced at nine o'clock, Alex. McIlwaine, the celebrated auctioneer, taking the stand at that hour and announcing to the large crowd in attendance the object of the meeting, and that he was ready for bids for the first choice of seats. A spirited contest at once arose between Drs. Hostetter and Harris, and Wm. Thaw, Esq., resulting in the first seat being knocked down to the bitters man at $650.

Dr. Harris took the next seat at $150. Third, Dr. Hostetter, at $100. Fourth, John H. McMasters, $75. Mr. Wm. Thaw secured the fifth choice at $50, and took four seats. Sixth, J. B. Jackson, two seats, at $50 each. The seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth choices were knocked down at twenty-five dollars each. At that price Mr. Charles Linford took two seats, Mr. John McCreery one, Mr. John Scott two, and Mr. William McCreery two seats. The eleventh choice brought twenty dollars, and was secured by Mr. William Thaw, who took five seats. The same gentleman made the next choice for twenty-five dollars. Commodore Kountz took four seats at the same price. Mr. David Aiken, Jr., took the next choice at fifteen dollars each, and Mr. James Chambers one. Mr. B. Wood, Jr., took two, Mr. William Thaw five, and Mr. T. McClintock three, at $10 each. At $5 each the following persons became purchasers: Wm. Thaw, fourteen seats; George L. Whitney, ten; David Aiken, Jr., one; Wm. McCreery, six; Joseph Horne, six; John Eing, four; D. W. C. Bidwell, two. Two persons announcing themselves as "cash" took two each. Quite a number of others purchased tickets at five dollars each.

Altogether, the affair was a gratifying success, the seats sold, including the price of tickets, amounting to nearly $3,000. It is stated that other seats will be offered to the highest bidder this morning at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, Wood street. This afternoon the regular sale of seats will commence at Kleber Bros., Wood street.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Election of Members of the Board of Health and a Street Commissioner—The Pennsylvania Railroad Ordinance—Regulating the Police—The City Printing.

A regular meeting of Pittsburgh Councils was held yesterday afternoon, when business was transacted as noted below:

SELECT BRANCH.

This branch was called to order shortly after two o'clock by Dr. Gross, President, and after the reading and approval of the minutes of the preceding meeting,

Mr. Shipton, from the Finance Committee, reported progress on the proposed bill classifying property for taxable purposes.

Also, with an affirmative recommendation, the ordinance amending an ordinance relative to the street improvement sinking fund. The ordinance was passed finally.

Also, a resolution for settlement of suit of Henry Maneker, by payment of judgment for $300. Adopted.

Mr. Shipton reported the organization of the Gas Committee. Filed.

The Chair read a communication from the Health Officer, stating the fact of five vacancies existing in the Board of Health, three expiration of term and two by resignation. Accepted.

THE RAILROAD ORDINANCE.

Mr. Anderson, from the Ordinance Committee, reported the organization of that committee. Accepted.

Also, the ordinance repealing the ordinance extending certain privileges to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company with a negative recommendation, and that the time for the completion of the contract be extended to January 1, 1876. The report was accepted.

Mr. Rafferty moved the consideration of the ordinance, and that for the information of Councilmen Clerk read the original ordinance. Being read by the Clerk, Mr. Brown asked that the ordinance be read the third time.

Mr. Shipton said it was hardly necessary, as that supplement simply extended the time of the completion of the work.

Mr. Aiken offered a resolution instructing the Ordinance Committee to report an ordinance extending the time of completion of the work to January 1, 1876, as recommended.

It was suggested that the approval of the report of the Committee would first come up, whereupon Mr. Aiken moved the approval of the report.

Mr. Braun took the floor and argued against the approval of the report. He claimed that no streets or parts of streets should be vacated to the use of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and that that Company never did comply with conditions of ordinances relative to them.

Mr. Rafferty had unrolled the lengthy petition of property-holders and citizens, asking for the passage of the repealing ordinance. He argued some time against the vacation of streets and in favor of the repeal of the ordinances.

Mr. Anderson, said he did not stand here the apologist of the Pennsylvania Railroad for any wrongs done or acts committed. The question was what is best to be done for the public interest. The contract was in the interest of travel, and by it lives of citizens would be protected by bridges or tunnels. He undertook to say that the city would be largely the loser by the repeal of the ordinance. The improvement was for the good of the whole city, notwithstanding that it was claimed that certain portions, this ward or that block of houses, would be better situated without it. The contract was entered into after extended discussion and long deliberation, and the legislation was for the good of the whole city. Complaint has been made that the work has not been completed in time; but we all know that the Railroad Company has done much of the work and expended a large amount of money.

Mr. Shipton agreed with the statements that the railroad company has not fulfilled former agreements. [Mr. Shipton's remarks were interrupted by the announcement that Common Council was ready to go into joint session.]

JOINT SESSION.

Councils went into joint session for the purpose of electing five members of the Board of Health. The communication from the Board being read, on motion of Mr. Littell it was decided that the three candidates having the highest votes be declared elect for the full term of three years, and the next two highest be elect for the short term of one year.

Nominations were made and a ballot taken, as showing by the following list:

	First Ballot.	Second Ballot.	Third Ballot.	Fourth Ballot.
R. T. O'Conner	34	43	40	29
Charles Ott	34	51	51	64
Jno. G. Connor	21	..	..	..
Jas. M. Neely	4	..	..	..
James Cready	1	..	..	..

Mr. Ott was announced elected.

Mr. Shipton concluded his remarks on the Railroad ordinance, favoring its repeal, after which, on motion, Council adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH.

Mr. Reilly, member elect from the Fifth ward, was sworn in and took his seat.

Petitions, etc., were presented and appropriately referred, as follows: Petition for vacation of Stevenson's alley, Sixth ward; from And. Strain, for exoneration from over-assessed taxes; from Mary Hogan, for relief from tax sale; from Jacob Marks, for exoneration from double assessment; for grading Main street, from Carson street to Ohio river.

ORDINANCE TO REGULATE POLICE.

Mr. Thompson presented an ordinance regulating the police of the city for the year 1875, providing that the force shall consist of one Chief of Police, one captain, seven detectives, seventeen lieutenants, one hundred and seventy-five patrolmen and ten lamplighters—total, 211. Referred to Police Committee.

Also, an ordinance fixing the pay of the police, as follows: Chief $2,500 per annum; captain, $2 50 per day; detectives, $2 per day, and patrolmen $2 25 per day. Referred to Police Committee.

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES, ETC.

Mr. Fulton, from the Street Committee, reported the organization and time of holding meetings of the Committee.

Also, report of the Board of Viewers on the assessment for Webster avenue sewer.

Mr. Kerr presented a remonstrance against the same. Report and remonstrance referred back to Street Committee.

The various committees reported their organization.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

was taken up, as follows:

Ordinance locating Robinson street, South Side. Passed.

Ordinance authorizing the assessment of damages and location of Sarah street, in front of Hiland avenue, from Penn avenue, to Hiland reservoir. Passed.

Ordinance creating the office of City Physician to the Lock-up, and fixing his salary at $1,000. Referred back to the Police Committee for amendments.

Resolution to confirm the appointment of Charles Ott, by the Street Committee, as Street Commissioner *pro tem* in the Sixth district. Passed.

Report of the Viewers on the opening of Brownsville avenue, from Carson street to Wasbashida avenue. Referred back to Street Committee.

NEW BUSINESS.

Mr. Finnerty offered a resolution instructing the Street Committee to report an ordinance authorizing the assessment of benefits for the erection of a sewer under Main street, Sixteenth ward. Referred.

THE CITY PRINTING.

Mr. Fox, from the Law Committee, presented an ordinance providing for the letting of contracts for doing official printing in newspapers of the city, providing for the advertising, record, binding of documents, job printing, stationery, etc. Passed.

Also, an ordinance prescribing the style and manner in which the city printing shall be done, and the price of the same shall be determined, etc.

Mr. Kerr moved to strike out the following from section two: "To determine the same in awarding said contract (newspaper printing) the committee shall be governed by the character, standing and circulation of the newspaper submitting the proposal." Lost.

The yeas and nays were then called on the final passage of the ordinance, which resulted —yeas, 25; nays, 3. Those voting "no" were Messrs. Kerr, Powers and Wilson.

Select Council business was then taken up and concurred in.

MORE NEW BUSINESS.

The consideration of new business was resumed, as follows:

Mr. Schmidt, resolution authorizing the City Solicitor to forward to Harrisburg the draft of an act of Assembly giving to the city the power to regulate and license pawnbrokers. Passed.

The chair read a communication from the Board of Health notifying Councils that there are five vacancies in the Board, to be filled today by election by Councils. Received and filed.

The resignation of John Robbins, member from the Thirty-first ward, was presented and accepted, and a resolution for an election to fill the vacancy passed.

Mr. Fulton, resolution for a bridge over Watson's Hollow, on Sylvan avenue extension, Twenty-third ward. Referred to the Board of Viewers in conjunction with the Road Committee.

Mr. Fox, resolution for three gas lamps on Thirty-seventh street, Fifteenth ward. Referred.

Mr. Boucher, report of sub-committee on taxation and classification, of the Taxpayers' Union. Referred.

Common Council then went into joint session with the other branch to elect persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Health.

As the close of the joint session, Common Council returned to their chamber and adjourned.

ORTWEIN.

The Murderer Examined by Physicians.

Yesterday Dr. Duffey, a Philadelphia physician, who has been spending a few days in the city, called on Mr. Swartzwelder, one of the counsel for Ortwein, the murderer, and expressed a desire to make an examination of the criminal. His request was readily granted, and yesterday morning, the physician named, together with Drs. Walters and Cable, of this city, paid a visit to the jail, and were conducted to the murderer's cell by Warden Smith. Mr. Swartzwelder was present. The medical gentlemen made a thorough superficial examination of Ortwein's head, the dimensions, shape, and everything relating thereto externally, were carefully noted. The result of the examination has not been made public, but it will probably be made known at no distant day. The murderer's counsel, it is stated, are strongly of the opinion that the man is insane, and the examination of yesterday was but a preliminary step toward the appointment by the Governor of a commission to inquire into the case. It is said that the murderer once received a severe injury on the head, and it is claimed that the result of that accident was the permanent unsettlement of his mind. It is not probable, however, that anything will be gained by these examinations, further than that the physicians may learn something that will be interesting to the scientific world. The execution will take place on the 23d of February.

Fire Protection for the South Side Hill Districts.

The sub-committee of the Board of Fire Commissioners have under consideration the question of affording protection to the hill districts of the South Side from fire. The committee consists of Messrs. Wilson, President of the Commission, and Jones and Pender. The committee, and probably the entire Board will during the week, visit the districts. As water pipes are not in use in the wards on the hill, there are but two ways to furnish protection, viz, by the construction of cisterns for water, and by the use of chemical engines. It is the desire of the Commission to afford the best facilities for the extinguishment of fires at the least possible cost.

THE CITY PRINTING.

What is Required by the Act of 1874?

There has been considerable discussion in several of the city papers, as to what does and does not constitute a compliance with the sixth section of the act of 23d of May, 1874, requiring all stationery, printing, binding, etc., to be given by contract to the lowest bidders. The twelfth section of article third of the Constitution, under the head "Legislation," provides: "All stationery, printing, paper and fuel used in the Legislature and other departments of government, shall be furnished, and the printing, binding and distributing of the laws, journals, department reports, and all other printing and binding, and the repairing and furnishing the halls and rooms used for the meetings of the General Assembly and its committees, shall be performed under contract to be given to the lowest responsible bidder, below such maximum price, and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by law." Etc. This, it will be observed, has reference only to the printing, etc., required by the State, the Constitution making no provision as to the printing, or other supplies required by cities.

The act above cited, known as the "Wallace act," applies the above section to cities, in the following language: "All stationery, printing, paper and fuel used in the Councils, and in other departments of the city government, and all work and materials required by the city, shall be furnished, and all other kinds of work to be done for the city, shall be performed under contract to be given to the lowest responsible bidder and proposals shall be received as may be prescribed by ordinance," etc. The phraseology is changed merely to substitute what may be required by cities, for that necessary for the General Assembly. A "maximum price" is required in proposals for State printing, fuel, etc., but this clause is omitted in the section applying to cities. In both cases the contracts "shall be given to the lowest responsible bidder," under such regulations as shall be prescribed by "law" or "ordinance."

It is clear that the intention of both the organic and the statute law is, to have the various kinds of work and materials mentioned performed or furnished at the lowest price offered by any responsible bidder. This is the main object: and the purpose is to prevent a needless or extravagant waste of the public monies.

The "regulations" which Councils are authorized to make, must be such as shall secure the main purpose in view, and not such as may be calculated to defeat the very letter and spirit of the law. In regard to the public advertisement of ordinances, reports, notices, etc., required by law to be printed, it is argued that Councils must take into consideration the circulation, character, etc., of the papers bidding. None have gone so far as to hold that the politics and religion of the respective papers shall be taken into account, but why not? If the character and circulation are essential elements, why not the political affiliation or religious predilections? That is the silent influence to the one as the other, and none of them can be legally considered at all. Take the case of Allegheny city. There is one newspaper published in that city, and Pittsburgh papers circulate in that city. The argument is advanced that, inasmuch as it may be made to appear that one or more of the Pittsburgh dailies circulate a larger number of papers in that city than the local paper there, the one having the largest circulation should be preferred, even though the bid of the local paper were the lowest. This argument is based upon the idea that the object sought is to get the public printing before the largest number of readers. The law does not so provide. It requires the printing to be given to the "lowest responsible bidder," not the lowest bidder, based upon the character and circulation of the paper making the bid. If that had been intended, it would have been expressed in the law. If the Allegheny paper should be the lowest bidder, and establish its responsibility to perform the contract, upon what clause in the law would another paper, circulating ten times as many copies in that city, base a claim to the work, upon a higher bid? The word "responsible" gives no room upon which to base such a claim, and where is the word or clause that does? Some of these very papers that have been contending for a wide discretion in the matter of city printing, have declared their convictions of the soundness of Judge Kirkpatrick's construction of this very section, that the Councils have virtually no discretion in the matter—that they must award all contracts to the lowest responsible bidders; and that the word "responsible," in this sense, means only ability to respond in a pecuniary way. This question is still pending in the courts, in the "rising mains" case; but its decision, we apprehend would not effect the point we are discussing.

The purpose, then, is to get the city printing done at the lowest price. When the contract is awarded, the world has notice as to where all legal advertisements relating to the awarding thereof will appear, and all parties interested can govern themselves accordingly. The object is not to pay a premium on large circulation, but to get the printing done at the lowest rate that a responsible bidder will contract to do it. In this way, the enterprize of the lowest bidder may, while benefitting the public, also enure to his benefit in increasing the circulation of his paper—an advantage to which he would be legitimately entitled.

ALLEGHENY COMMITTEES.

Regular Meetings Last Evening.

The Committees on Water, Fire Engines and Hose, and Surveys, of Allegheny Councils, held regular meetings last evening.

The Water Committee decided to ask for an appropriation of $30,000 for the present year's expenses. They will also ask the Finance Committee for $40,000 of bonds for the improvement of the basin, provided Councils should authorize said improvement. The specifications prepared by the Engineer for the new boilers for the water works were approved. The committee adjourned to meet next Wednesday for the purpose of inspecting the basin.

The Committee on Fire Engines and Hose will ask for an appropriation of $68,946 46. The estimated amount for the year's expenses is $55,526, and the balance of the sum asked—$13,181 46—is for the payment of the debts of last year, including life insurance, stamps, fire bells, and other purchases for the department. A sub-committee was appointed to attend to the matter of supplies.

The Committee on Surveys appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. Phillips, Huckenstine and Pentecost, to examine into the condition of the City Engineer's office, to ascertain if any reduction of the present force is practicable. The committee will ask for an appropriation of $4,000.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

John Horn, bankrupt, Allegheny City. Petition of the assignee presented and an order made for the payment of certain taxes due on property situated on Ohio street.

Chris. L. Graff, debtor. Further argument on the part of John Havey to set aside the order confirming the composition of the said debtor with the creditors by Messrs. Johns & Watson for, and Messrs. Woods & MacConnell against the same. The Court refused to set aside the order confirming the composition.

O. F. Sheldon & Co., debtors, Crawford county. A petition for an injunction was filed and an order made for a hearing of the same on the 8th prox., and in the meantime restraining Levy Dimmick *et al.* from performing the action sought to be enjoined.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett.

The case of Reiter & Co. vs. A. J. Nellis & Co., previously reported, is still on trial.

In the case of J. C. Converse, trustee, vs. John Penny, a motion was made by defendant and reasons filed for a new trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Millett & Co. vs. Morrell; Davis vs. Hubbard *et al.*; Enterprise Savings Bank vs. Nation Trust Company; Bertram vs. Pfarr & Dietrich; Watterson vs. A. V. R. R. Co.; Dravo & McDonald vs. Pittsburgh Insurance Co.; Beatty *et al.*, administrators vs. Coleman; McElroy & Dickson vs. Ash; Boatman's Fire and Marine Insurance Co. vs. Finney, *et al.*; Rafferty, trustee, vs. Spear & Co., Ward, assignee, vs. Stewart; same vs. Little, jr.; Bacon & Keeny vs. Young; Laner & Bro. vs. Hacke.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

In the case of James Old vs. William McKee, an action to recover for merchandise sold and delivered, the jury found for plaintiff for $396 43.

The case of W. E. Ploss vs. W. A. Buntin is on trial before Judge White. This is an action to recover for alleged malicious prosecution.

The case of D. P. Hatch an wife vs. Michael Grover, an action to recover for certain stock belonging to plaintiffs, held as a collateral security and alleged to have been sold without authority by defendant, is on trial before Judge Kirkpatrick.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Watson vs. Scheid; Cluley vs. Phillips (2); McCabe's executor vs. Hickey; Daugherty vs. Kelly; McAfee vs. Scott; Buente vs. Rosenberger & Co.; Wholley vs. Penn Co.; Huckenstein & Baum vs. Hockmeyer; Commonwealth, for use, vs. Boyer; Bacon vs. Rivers.

Orphans' Court—Judge Hawkins.

This Court was engaged yesterday in hearing cases on the argument list.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

Albert Gardner, indicted for assault and battery, on oath of Mary Haney, was convicted, but recommended to the mercy of the Court. He was sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars and costs.

Owen Fitzsimmons, Wm. Riddell and P. McNamee were convicted of maintaining a public nuisance in the shape of a horse market, on Seventh street.

J P. Padden is on trial on a charge of selling liquor without license, preferred by Adam Haley.

REV. L. H. ABRAMS, of New York city, will deliver a lecture, this evening, at Christ's Methodist Episcopal Church, Penn street. Subject—Fashionable Dissipation, or the Duties of American Ladies in the Temperance Reform. Tickets thirty cents. Lecture under the auspices of the W. C. T. U., for the relief of the poor.

THE RAILROAD ORDINANCE

Another Discussion upon the Proposition to Rescind the Contract.

The Ordinance Committee of Councils, as required by resolution, yesterday reported the ordinance to rescind the contract between the city and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The resolution calling for a report passed upon the motion of a gentleman who has been active in his efforts to secure a repeal, and who doubtless anticipated an affirmative recommendation. The committee, however, returned the bill negatively, and recommended an extension of the contract until the first of January next. When the report was reached, a discussion ensued upon the motion to adopt the recommendation, which was interrupted by a joint session to consider other business. Mr. Aiken offered a resolution instructing the committee to prepare an ordinance extending the time for the completion of the work, and this will probably be pressed to a vote at the next meeting. At the close of the joint session Mr. Rafferty moved to make the rescinding ordinance the special order for next meeting, but this was not agreed to. The matter will therefore come up in regular order at next meeting.

There is a diversity of opinion as to how the Select council will stand on this important question when it comes squarely to a vote. That the original ordinance was a wise and necessary measure, and one which must result in mutual benefit to the people and the railroad company, we have never doubted. We can understand how a number, and a few localities, should urge repeal; but looking at the measure in a broad sense, covering the necessities of the whole community and the requirements of the future of the road, the contract is one that ought to stand. It was entered into in a spirit of compromise, growing out of the necessities of the case, and neither party getting all that they would like to have obtained. Now that a large portion of the work has been done, and heavy contracts entered into for its further prosecution, it would be folly to attempt to arrest it. The wiser plan would be for Councils to urge on the work to speedy completion; and since contracts have been made for the stonework and superstructure of a number of the bridges, there is not likely to be much further delay. These suggestions are all outside of the question as to whether Councils have the right to rescind the contract; and whether the rescission, if accomplished, would result in anything more than to involve the city in prolonged and expensive litigation.

OBITUARY.

Major William Wade.

In yesterday's COMMERCIAL we announced the death of our distinguished fellow citizen Major William Wade, at the ripe age of eighty-six years. The deceased was a native of New Jersey, and entered the army as a Lieutenant of Ordinance, in 1812. He superintended the building of the Allegheny arsenal, in this city, and remained in the service of the Government until 1832, when he retired, and engaged in the foundry business in this city, being a member of the firm of McClurg, Wade & Co. In 1839 he was a member of a commission sent out by the Government to examine into the systems of ordnance and defense then existing in Europe, and on his return reentered the service as superintendent of the construction of cannon, a position which he held for several years. To his researches, perhaps, more than to those of any other officer, the country is indebted for the rapid advance and improvement in the methods for constructing and handling heavy ordnance. In 1852 he again engaged in business, and retired in 1857, since which time he has not been specially employed. He spent some of his leisure time, however, in writing, at the request of the department, a series of papers entitled "Ordnance Notes," which have since been printed for preservation. The names of Wade and Rodman are inseparably and honorably associated with the modern improvements in the construction of ordnance, especially those for coast and harbor defense.

Major Wade was a man of large scientific acquirements, and a life-long student and worker. He was a man of modest demeanor, of great simplicity of manner, and of pure and blameless life. He did not care for mixing in public affairs, but took an active interest in the welfare of the community, and for a number of years served with fidelity and acceptability as a member of City Councils. He was also a member of the Commission to fix high and low water lines along the shores of the three rivers, in Allegheny county, as required by act of Assembly. He dies full of years, and leaves behind him the record of a useful and honorable life.

ALLEGHENY TRUST COMPANY.

General Meeting of Stockholders—Statement of the Bank's Condition—Deficit of $183,813 74—Stockholders to be Assessed $100 per Share.

The stockholders of the Allegheny Trust Company, which institution closed its doors a few weeks ago, met yesterday afternoon at the Young Men's Republican Club rooms on Federal street. There was a large attendance, and great interest, not to say anxiety, was manifested in the statement of the affairs of the bank, which it was known would be presented at the meeting. After the meeting had been called to order, all who did not represent stock in the concern were requested to retire. This included the reporters. The subjoined statement was then presented and read by Mr. McMeirar, the late defaulting cashier of the company. When it was found that the bank was in such an unhealthy condition, there was, it is said, considerable excitement among the suffering stockholders, many of whom were not slow in expressing their indignation at the bad showing exhibited by the figures. The state-ment of liabilities and assets is as follows

LIABILITIES.

Due depositors	$478,543 13
Bonds and mortgages on bank property	17,000 00
	$492,543 13

ASSETS.

Cash on hand	$ 1,730 64
Bills receivable	150,000 00
Bank property	50,000 00
Accounts overdrawn	40,848 35
House and lot on Sandusky street	5,000 00
Bonds and mortgages on property of J. Hoslck, Seventh ward	3,000 00
First bonds and mortgages on Montana Oil Company's property, Seventh ward	13,000 00
	$298,729 40
Deficiency	183,813 74

After the statement had been read and pondered on, a resolution was passed to assess $100 per share on the stock, $50 of the same to be payable within thirty days, and the remainder at the call of the President. There are about 2,200 shares, held by some two hundred persons. The assessment ordered will give at least $220,000, which will more than square up the liabilities. The par value of each share was $100. There is a conflict of opinion among those interested as to whether it will be best to resume business or not, a number of those who suffer thinking they have had enough of it, while many others feel like holding on, hoping thus to get even.

THE ELECTION MUDDLE.

Questions for the Taxpayers' Union.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Disappointed office seekers and chronic grumblers attempt to keep up an excitement on the question of city officials. They seem to want to put an expense upon taxpayers—the masses—and to create and continue an uneasiness in the public mind. The "Union," as they style themselves, seem to think that they can run Mayor Blackmore as they please, and while they hob-nob and consult with him regarding matters that have been settled by the people, they forget the present status of that official before the public. Mr. Blackmore's term ends with the present month. Is the Taxpayers' Union looking as to whether he will relinquish his position creditably and with clean accounts with the city? Do not they know that with the failure of Messrs. McVay & Co. over $9,000 of the public money was lost, more than half of which the Mayor has not yet made good? He and his bail are responsible for this, or ought to be, but what does their responsibility amount to? Why don't the "Union" look to the city's interest in the matter? The Mayor is bankrupt and his bondsmen are Jno. M. Brush, Thomas J. Blackmore and Christopher Graff. Does not the Union know that all these gentlemen are now in the bankrupt court?

Thus it will be seen and is generally known, that the Mayor is not under the bail required, and, although he handles a large amount of public funds, and is about retiring from office, the "Union" has nothing to say. It certainly looks as though the motives of these gentlemen are personal or vindictive as against Mayor-elect McCarthy. INQUIRER.

"The Home of a Virtuoso."

Under this caption, our townswoman, Mrs. Helen P. Jenkins, contributes a very racy and interesting description to the *Home Journal*, of a visit which she paid to the residence of Dr. W. C. Swann, of Philadelphia, a real "devotee of art," whose collection of paintings, statuary and articles of *virtu* is one of the most extensive and valuable in the country. The description, which is exceedingly well written, occupies nearly two columns of the paper, and reflects credit upon the artistic taste and literary ability of the writer. Mrs. Jenkins concludes in these words:

As we grow wiser we beautify the places where we eat and sleep, where we work and where our children play, so that our souls may constantly feed on beauty. When men grow rich in purse, and not in soul, they invest their entire wealth in business, or in banks and bonds; when the soul grows rich as well the purse, one of the uses men make of their wealth is to promote culture; they surround themselves with beauty—build exquisite homes and fill them with the choicest works of art. All this is the reaching of the soul upward. A beautiful home is one of the efforts to realize something of Heaven upon earth.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Massinger's fine old comedy, "A New Way to Pay Old Debts," was splendidly rendered last evening, with Mr. E. L. Davenport as *Sir Giles Overreach*, Mr. Morrison as *Wellborn*, Mr. Ellsler as *Justice Greedy*, and Mrs. Davenport as *Lady Allworth*. This cast, well supplemented by the stock company, was a sufficient guaranty of the success of the piece. We think there have been few more pleasant evenings at the Opera House this season. Mr. Davenport played the old miser with remarkable fidelity to nature and tradition, suiting his action to the situation so carefully that the grand *denouement* at the close of the fifth act was the fitting and inevitable climax of the whole charming story. Mrs. Davenport and Messrs. Morrison and Ellsler won the hearty applause of the audience, as also did Mr. Owen as *Marrall*, and Miss Troy as *Margaret*. There could have been no happier beginning of an engagement which will prove one of the strongest of the season. To-night *Hamlet* will be given.

The Jubilee Singers.

This evening, at Library Hall, a band of young colored people, organized under the auspices of the American Missionary Society, and singing through the country to raise funds for the completion and endowment of Fisk University, at Nashville, Tenn., will give a concert. The selections will consist of the plaintive plantation melodies and stirring hymns peculiar to the campmeetings of the colored people of the South. The singers are described as natural melodists, with wonderfully sweet voices, and those who attend will no doubt have a great treat. The sale of seats, which has been conducted at Hale's music store, has been very large, and the house bids fair to be filled.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The large corps of star performers now engaged at this theater give a most enjoyable entertainment. The programme is one of the most interesting ever offered in the city.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Allegheny tax duplicates now in the hands of collectors call for $129,000.

MRS. HASTINGS yesterday made a contribution of wearing apparel for the poor.

BRITTON'S distillery at Brownsville, was seized yesterday by Revenue Officer Pender, for an alleged violation of law.

SEVENTY-FIVE tramps found their way to the Allegheny City Poorhouse Saturday, and were lodged and fed there till Monday morning.

IT IS reported that the glass works of A & D. H. Chambers, on the South Side, will resume operation in a few days, giving employment to sixty men.

ONE of the collectors for the Consolidated Gas Company fell short a few dollars, and the fact gave rise to a startling rumor of a heavy defalcation in that quarter.

ROBERT GORMING, of the Consolidated Gas Company, offers a reward of seventy-five dollars for the recovery of his horse, which was stolen Saturday night.

THE Jubilee Singers, whose concert occurs this evening at Library Hall, will arrive from Columbus at 7:25 this morning. They stop at the Central hotel while in the city.

THE delegates from the city to the National Post of the G. A. R., which meets at West Chester, will leave on the fast line, Pennsylvania Railroad, this evening at 7:55.

MRS. S. MCKEE, of the Twelfth ward, stopped a bread wagon the other day, and purchased two hundred loaves of bread, which she distributed among the poor of the ward.

THE Boston Glee Club will give a concert Thursday night, in the First Christian Church, Montgomery avenue, Allegheny. The proceeds will be handed over to the Sunday school.

THE Republicans of the Twelfth ward will meet at the school house on this (Tuesday) evening, at half past seven o'clock for the purpose of suggesting candidates for ward offices.

THE number of tramps at the Central Station House last night was one hundred and forty-three. The names of Wade and Rodman are inseparably and honorably associated with the modern improvements in the construction of ordnance, especially those for coast and harbor defense.

MAJOR WADE was a man of large scientific acquirements, and a life-long student and worker. He was a man of modest demeanor, of great simplicity of manner, and of pure and blameless life. He did not care for mixing in public affairs, but took an active interest in the welfare of the community, and for a number of years served with fidelity and acceptability as a member of City Councils. He was also a member of the Commission to fix high and low water lines along the shores of the three rivers, in Allegheny county, as required by act of Assembly. He dies full of years, and leaves behind him the record of a useful and honorable life.

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SHORTLY before four o'clock yesterday afternoon the fire department was called to No. 1906 Carson street, South Side. The cause of the alarm was found to be the burning of soot in a chimney. The house is occupied by Mr. Peter Knabe.

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